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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

## **PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Hon. Commissioner of Patents  
and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Attention: N. Vo  
Examiner

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated April 20, 1999, please amend the above-identified application as set forth below. A Petition For Extension Of Time and the appropriate fee are filed herewith to extend the response period from July 20, 1999 to August 20, 1999. Additionally, a Request for a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) has been concurrently filed herewith.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as express mail in an envelope addressed to the Asst. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on:

11 August 1999

(Date of Deposit)

Kayla R. Seignious

(Registered Representative)

11 August 1999

Kayla Loh  
(Signature)

11 August 1999

11 August 1999  
(Date of Signature)

(Date of signature)